# Message Text

#### CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 REYKJA 01287 141659Z ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /090 W

-----095979 150121Z/62

R 141549Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7669
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL REYKJAVIK 1287

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG, UN, IC

SUBJECT: UNGA CONSULTATIONS: GUAM

**REF: STATE 205678** 

1. DCM AND POLOFF MADE FIRM PRESENTATION OF POINTS PARA 9F REFTEL AT MEETING AT MFA HEADED BY PERMANENT DEPUTY UNDER-SECRETARY HELGASON SEPTEMBER 13. MFA COUNSELOR EGILSSON REVIEWED VOTING ON GUAM ISSUE FROM PREVIOUS UN SESSION SHOWING DENMARK (AS PART OF EC BLOC) ONLY NORDIC TO SUPPORT US POSITION. HELGASON SAID THAT WITHIN GOI, MFA SUPPORTS US VIEW NOW AS IT DID LAST YEAR. DIFFICULTY LIES IN CONVINCING OTHER ELEMENTS WITHIN GOVERNMENT.

2. GOI HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO ANYTHING WITH MILITARY OVERTONES. HELGASON SAID VOTE FOR US POSITION IN 1976 WOULD HAVE REVIVED ATTACKS ON NATO BASE IN PRESS AT TIME WHEN COALITION WAS VULNERABLE. DESPITE FACT THAT GOI IS IN STRONGER POLITICAL POSITION AT THIS TIME AND THAT GUAM RESOLUTION CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 REYKJA 01287 141659Z

LIKELY TO BE MILDER, USG CANNOT COUNT ON ICELANDIC VOTE. ADDITIONAL PROBLEM IS STANCE TAKEN BY NORDIC BLOC WHICH GOI TENDS TO FOLLOW RATHER THAN LEAD. UNLESS OTHER NORDICS, ESPECIALLY NORWAY, CAN BE CONVINCED TO SUPPORT US POSITION, GOI UNLIKELY TO STAND ALONE (DANES EXCEPTED). HELGASON NOTED CATEGORICALLY THAT IF OTHER NORDICS SUPPORTED US POSITION, ICELAND WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM

### FOLLOWING SUIT.

3. EMBOFFS STRESSED THIS WAS QUESTION OF US RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE RATHER THAN "FOREIGN" MILITARY BASE ISSUE AND URGED MFA OFFICIALS TO WORK IN BEHLAF OF USG POSITION. HELGASON PROMISED TO DO HIS BEST BUT WAS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT RESULTS.

4. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, EMBASSY BELIEVES ONLY WAY TO WIN OVER GOI WOULD BE TO GAIN SUPPORT OF OTHER NORDICS BEFORE WORKING LEVEL MEETING OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MFA OFFICIALS SEPTEMBER 22-23 IN REYKJAVIK. BLAKE

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## Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PORG, IC, US, UN

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